

FINANCIAL NOTES.

CURRENT COMMENT

Paragraphs of Interest to the Investing Public.

In its November 15th issue "The Financial Review" says that gold may be lawful money, but that lawful money is not gold.

"Lawful money" may be converted into gold, but it is only necessary to cite the practice of the Bank of France to show that the operation is not always possible.

"The 'or lawful money' phrase, which creeps in and out of the pending currency measure, usually after overnight consideration or argument between members of the Senate Currency Committee themselves or with other standing high in administration circles, is one of the most perplexing and mysterious incidents attending the progress of that measure toward enactment."

Standard Oil Securities.
Brokers dealing in Standard Oil securities are optimistic regarding the future outlook of these companies. Recent large distributions have stimulated confidence in investors who, of late, have been rather apprehensive and unwilling to make any commitments. Houses making a specialty of these securities report excellent business, and of an investment character rather than a speculative one.

E. D. Pouch, of Pouch & Co., says: "The outlook for Standard Oil securities seems as bright as ever. In the first place, the production is extra large in California, where the Standard Oil of California has struck several 10,000-barrel-a-day wells. The Oklahoma fields are producing almost record figures under the ownership of the Prairie Oil and Gas Company, whose runs of oil last month were 100,000 barrels.

"Crude oil prices seem generally on the advance, with many of the independent companies paying premiums. The Eastern refiners could probably use more crude oil than they are receiving today from the Western fields on account of the continued extraordinary demand for oil products. The market for the securities, on the other hand, is constantly stimulated by extra dividends here and there among the thirty-three former subsidiaries of the Standard Oil Company.

The usual Standard Oil conservative management has apparently made a strong plea to investors, who more and more are turning to these stocks as attractive."

PUBLIC UTILITY NOTES.

Consumers of the Louisville Gas and Electric Company, it is expected, will be supplied with natural gas by January 1, if the new pipe line 250 miles long now being constructed from the West Virginia gas fields across Kentucky can be completed by that time. About 75 miles of the pipeline are already laid down and are being constructed under difficulties. A force of 1,200 men working on several sections through the mountains is hurrying the line as rapidly as possible. Practically all of the right of way has been secured and no serious delays of any kind are looked for.

Washington Water Power Company.
Stockholders of the Washington Water Power Company are in receipt of a circular announcing an increase in the company's capital stock of \$5,000,000 by the directors. A special meeting of shareholders has been called for December 2, at Spokane, Wash., to authorize the increase. The new capital, if ratified, will be \$20,000,000. A vote of two-thirds of the stock is required to authorize the proposition. It is proposed to offer only part of the new stock at present to stockholders at par in an amount equal to 10 per cent of their holdings. The quotation for this stock for some time has been considerably above par. The company has in the course of construction a large dam and power house which will finally cost approximately \$3,000,000, and part of the new money received will be expended in paying off loans made to finance the construction work.

Portland Railway Light and Power Co.
The directors of the Portland Railway Light and Power Company have declared a dividend of \$1 a share, payable December 1 to stock of record November 18. This is a reduction of 25 cents a share quarterly for a number of months past the company has been showing a decrease in earnings, for while gross earnings were steadily on the increase, operating expenses were figured decreases were shown instead of gains. For the twelve months ended September 30, 1913, gross earnings increased \$12,403, while operating expenses were \$12,403 larger than for the previous year. This left net earnings of \$3,368.81, a gain of \$2,367 over the figures for the year increased \$23,624, leaving surplus for the stock of \$1,431,571, which was a decrease of \$176,857 from that of the preceding year, and equivalent to 5.7 per cent on the \$25,000,000 of stock.

NEW YORK BANK STOCKS.

(Published by H. H. P. & Co., 20 Wall Street.)

Bank	High	Low	Last
Am. Bank	100	99	100
Am. Nat.	100	99	100
Chas. & Co.	100	99	100
City	100	99	100
Com. Bank	100	99	100
First Nat.	100	99	100
Manhattan	100	99	100
Mech. & Chem.	100	99	100
Miner.	100	99	100
Morgan	100	99	100
Nat. City	100	99	100
Nat. Ind.	100	99	100
Nat. Life	100	99	100
Nat. Sav.	100	99	100
Nat. Tr.	100	99	100
Rockefeller	100	99	100
Truist	100	99	100
Wells	100	99	100
West. Union	100	99	100
Western	100	99	100

BONDS AND NOTES.

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Bond	High	Low	Last
U. S. 4's	100	99	100
U. S. 5's	100	99	100
U. S. 6's	100	99	100
U. S. 7's	100	99	100
U. S. 8's	100	99	100
U. S. 9's	100	99	100
U. S. 10's	100	99	100
U. S. 11's	100	99	100
U. S. 12's	100	99	100
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MINING.

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Am. Gold	100	99	100
Am. Silver	100	99	100
Chas. & Co.	100	99	100
City	100	99	100
Com. Bank	100	99	100
First Nat.	100	99	100
Manhattan	100	99	100
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B. & O.'S BIG YEAR.

HIT BY FLOODS

Largest Gross Business Offset by Extra Expense Due to Damage.

The eighty-seventh annual report of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1913, which is being distributed to stockholders today, shows the largest gross business in its history. Total operating revenues, including outside operations, were \$103,325,992, an increase of \$28,338. Operating expenses, however, were \$76,427,810, an increase of \$8,065,260, so that the net railroad operating revenue was \$26,900,182, a decrease of \$35,563. Railroad tax accruals increased \$17,770, and deductions for rents, interest, etc., increased \$39,449. Other income increased \$88,314, so that the year's surplus before dividends, \$12,334,251, showed a decrease of \$663,808.

After the payment of the regular 4 per cent dividend on the preferred stock there was a balance of \$10,979,533, which is equal to 7.2 per cent on the \$152,317,488 common stock outstanding, compared with 7.5 per cent the previous year.

The total amount expended for maintenance last year was 31.85 per cent of the gross earnings and 4.85 per cent of the total operating expenses. These expenses included \$76,242 directly incident to flood damage, \$79,143 to the reconstruction and revision of existing facilities, and \$2,919,736 for depreciation of equipment.

The estimate to overcome the physical damage from last spring's disastrous flood throughout the Ohio Valley, was placed at approximately \$2,000,000, said the president, Daniel Willard, in the report. While the lines were all promptly restored, he added, some of the permanent work, such as replacement of steel structures, remains to be completed, and it is estimated that the charges on this account, extending over several months, may aggregate \$1,500,000.

Crude oil prices seem generally on the advance, with many of the independent companies paying premiums. The Eastern refiners could probably use more crude oil than they are receiving today from the Western fields on account of the continued extraordinary demand for oil products. The market for the securities, on the other hand, is constantly stimulated by extra dividends here and there among the thirty-three former subsidiaries of the Standard Oil Company.

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Well, Roth & Co., of Cincinnati, were awarded on November 10 the \$45,000 5 per cent eight-year average emergency bridge bonds of Kenton, Hardin County, Ohio.

CURB MARKET IRREGULAR

Industrials Firm in Spots—Oil Issues Active.

An irregular tendency characterized the trading in the curb market yesterday, although speculation continued on a small scale. The industrial list displayed firmness in spots at the outset, but profit taking brought about a reactionary tendency. There was little feature worthy of mention. The Standard Oil group was fairly active and strong in spots.

Mining stocks were strong and active, with several advances noted for the day, especially Jim Butler, which opened at 71 and sold up to 75 at the close. Tonopah Belmont changed hands at 37 1/2 and 37 1/2 and Extension at 39 1/2. Nevada Hills sold at 50 and North Star at 42. Tonopah Merger advanced from 56 to 58 and West End from 51 to 52.

There was a little early steadiness on covering by near month shorts, and a Memphis crop estimate of 15,500,000 bushels, excluding Oklahoma. There were a number of favorable outside influences, including labor troubles in New England and increased Southern offerings, and the market eased off during the day, closing a shade up from the lowest, with a decline of 1 to 7 points on the near months and 15 to 17 points on January and later deliveries. New Orleans advanced 4 to 5 points after the close of business here. Southern spot markets were unchanged to 10 lower, and the local market declined 10 points to 13.70 for middling upland. Sales, 71 bales. Delivered on contract, 2,390 bales. Local contract prices:

(Published by Harry E. Thompson & Co., No. 25 Broad Street.)

Commodity	High	Low	Last
British-Am Tobacco	100	99	100
Cluett-Fabry	100	99	100
Con Rubber Tire	100	99	100
Emerson-Brent	100	99	100
Havana Tobacco	100	99	100
United Cigar Stores	100	99	100
Houston Oil	100	99	100
Manhattan Shirt	100	99	100
May's Oil	100	99	100
National Sugar	100	99	100
Oil of Mexico	100	99	100
Standard Oil of N. J.	100	99	100
Tobacco Products	100	99	100
United Cigar Stores	100	99	100
U. S. Light & Heat	100	99	100
Willam-Oversland	100	99	100
Do preferred	100	99	100
Bradley's	100	99	100
Braden's	100	99	100
B. R. T. Co.	100	99	100
Western Pacific	100	99	100

INDUSTRIALS.

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United Cigar Stores	100	99	100
Houston Oil	100	99	100
Manhattan Shirt	100	99	100
May's Oil	100	99	100
National Sugar	100	99	100
Oil of Mexico	100	99	100
Standard Oil of N. J.	100	99	100
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